

Amendments to the Claims

Listing of Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-9 without prejudice and add new claims 10-33 as follows:

1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (New) An electronic percussion instrument system comprising:
a barrel section having a generally hollow interior and a first end open to the generally hollow interior;
a head disposed in a tensioned state across the first end of the barrel section to define a percussion surface for receiving a percussion impact and a second surface facing opposite the percussion surface, the head having a head material through which air may pass;
a cushioning member in communication with the second surface of the head, while allowing air to pass through the head;
a transducer disposed in communication with the cushioning member, to receive percussion impact signals through the cushioning member in response to a percussion impact on the percussion surface of the head.

11. (New) An electronic percussion instrument system as recited in claim 10, wherein the head material comprises a material having openings through which air may pass.

12. (New) An electronic percussion instrument system as recited in claim 11, wherein the head material comprises a net-like material.

13. (New) An electronic percussion instrument system as recited in claim 10, wherein the head material comprises multiple layers of a material having openings through which air may pass.

14. (New) An electronic percussion instrument system as recited in claim 13, wherein each layer of the head material comprises a net-like material.

15. (New) An electronic percussion instrument system as recited in claim 13, wherein the multiple layers of head material are bonded together.

16. (New) An electronic percussion instrument system of claim 10, wherein the barrel section has a central axis and the cushioning member is located at the central axis of the barrel section.

17. (New) An electronic percussion instrument system of claim 10, further comprising supporting structure for supporting the transducer and the cushioning member.

18. (New) An electronic percussion instrument system of claim 17, wherein the supporting structure supports the cushioning member within the generally hollow interior of the barrel section.

19. (New) An electronic percussion instrument system of claim 17, wherein the barrel section has a central axis and wherein the supporting structure supports the cushioning member at the central axis of the barrel section.

20. (New) An electronic percussion instrument system of claim 19, wherein the supporting structure supports the cushioning member within the generally hollow interior of the barrel section.

21. (New) An electronic percussion instrument system of claim 10, wherein the cushioning member is disposed in direct contact with the second surface of the head.

22. (New) An electronic percussion instrument system of claim 10, wherein the cushioning member is arranged to contact a portion of, but less than the entire surface area of the second surface of the head.

23. (New) A method of making an electronic percussion instrument system comprising:

providing a barrel section having a generally hollow interior and a first end open to the generally hollow interior;

providing a head having a head material through which air may pass;

tensioning the head across an end of the barrel section to define a percussion surface for receiving a percussion impact and a second surface facing opposite the percussion surface;

locating a cushioning member in communication with the second surface of the head, while allowing air to pass through the head material;

locating a transducer in communication with the cushioning member, to receive percussion impact signals through the cushioning member in response to a percussion impact on the percussion surface of the head.

24. (New) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein the head material comprises a material having openings through which air may pass.

25. (New) A method as recited in claim 24, wherein the head material comprises a net-like material.

26. (New) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein the head material comprises multiple layers of a material having openings through which air may pass.

27. (New) A method as recited in claim 25, further comprising bonding the multiple layers of material together.

28. (New) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein the barrel section has a central axis and wherein locating the cushioning member comprises securing the cushioning member at the central axis of the barrel section.

29. (New) A method as recited in claim 23, further comprising providing supporting structure for supporting the transducer and the cushioning member.

30. (New) A method as recited in claim 23, further comprising providing supporting structure for supporting the cushioning member within the generally hollow interior of the barrel section.

31. (New) A method as recited in claim 29, wherein the barrel section has a central axis and wherein providing supporting structure comprises providing structure that supports the cushioning member at the central axis of the barrel section.

32. (New) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein locating the cushioning member comprises arranging the cushioning member in direct contact with the second surface of the head.

33. (New) A method as recited in claim 23, wherein locating the cushioning member comprises arranging the cushioning member in contact with a portion of, but less than the entire surface area of the second surface of the head.